



# Author Information

## ANDREW COOPER



Andrew Cooper was born and brought up in Devon, worked in East Africa with Richard Leakey and team exploring human evolution, and then travelled around the world a few times for the BBC. Although a biologist and anthropologist by training, he has spent most of his working life as a television producer and broadcaster with the BBC Natural History Unit based in Bristol.

For as long as he can remember, Dartmoor has cast a powerful spell over Andrew. He was born and brought up in sight of the moors and his weekends were often spent playing among boulders and paddling in cold streams. As a youngster, Andrew was enthralled by huge sea trout leaping in the twilight, buzzards wheeling above craggy tors and the creeping closure of carnivorous plants consuming prey. It is no surprise that these uplands motivated Andrew to become a wildlife film maker.

After a lifetime spent producing BBC Natural History documentaries all over the world, the opportunity arose for Andrew to revisit the highest remaining wildwood in Britain and meet some amazing people. To stand waist deep in a frozen white wilderness, walk among drifts of native daffodils and revel in a story millions of years in the making were just some of the reasons to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Dartmoor National Park in a special book.

Andrew is also Chairman of the Devon Wildlife Trust; a founding trustee of the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth and a Trustee of the Whitley Wildlife Trust, the owners of Paignton Zoo, Living Coasts and Slapton National Nature Reserve, Devon.

Andrew lives with his wife on a farm in the historic and picturesque valley of Haccombe in South Devon. He is the author of seven books including *The Secret Nature of Devon* also published by Green Books. His website, [www.wildlink.org](http://www.wildlink.org) has webcams focussing on everything from Barn Owls to Badgers, and attracts over 22 million visitors a year.

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